



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEOSHO MAN SENTENCED FOR THREAT OF INTIMIDATION

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Neosho, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for making a threat of intimidation toward another person and threatening to destroy, by means of fire, property belonging to that person.

Larry James Reynolds, 36, of Neosho, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr this morning to two years in federal prison without parole and ordered to pay \$45,000 in restitution to his victim.

On June 4, 2004, **Reynolds** pleaded guilty to using a telephone to threaten to intimidate another person and to threaten to unlawfully destroy, by means of fire, property belonging to that person.

Reynolds initially telephoned his victim on Nov. 16, 2003, insisting that the victim owed **Reynolds'** mother \$200,000 or a house and a car. **Reynolds'** mother had recently divorced the victim and sought a \$200,000 one-time payment as alimony. Instead, the Barry County Circuit Court ordered a payment of \$30,000, which had been made.

During the telephone conversation, **Reynolds** told the victim, "I'm going to put you down," unless he paid the money in two weeks.

On Dec. 1, 2003, a residence owned by the victim burned and, at approximately the same time, 250 bales of hay owned by the victim at a different location were lost due to fire. The Missouri State Fire Marshal suspected arson and began a criminal investigation.

By pleading guilty, **Reynolds** admitted to making a telephone call to his victim on Dec. 2, 2003, and threatening to destroy his property after his victim had already lost other property to fire following their initial telephone conversation.

Reynolds was originally charged in a criminal complaint filed in federal court on Dec. 8, 2003. The criminal complaint was later replaced by an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Dec. 17, 2003, which was also later replaced by a superseding indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Jan. 26, 2004, in Springfield.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard E. Monroe. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow